(b) the amount in foreign exchange in each case sanctioned by the Reserve Bank of India to such individuals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) It is difficult to determine the number of Indians who have acquired Swiss and other countries' citizenships as most Governments do not inform other Governments about acquisition of nationality of their countries. Ministry of External Affairs have been taking up this subject with other Governments. Some foreign countries plead their inability because of their system of dual nationality while others cite their privacy laws as prohibiting transmission of such information to foreign Governments.

No foreign exchange is released to Indian nationals specifically for acquiring foreign citizenships. Some countries require immigrants to bring in a minimum amount of funds at the time of immigration. Applications for such release of funds are dealt with by Reserve Bank of India on a case to case basis and amounts are released on a repatriation basis with bank guarantee.

Bank loans written off

1279. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) total amount of bank loans which were written off during each of last three Plan Periods and each of the last three years for which figures are available; and

(b) what is the Government policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) All commercial banks including the public sector banks make provision every year out of their annual income for meeting their liability towards bad and doubtful debts to the satisfaction of their statutory Auditors and write off the debts which are considered by their management as ultimately unrecoverable from out of the provisions so made. The banks generally write off their advances only after exhausting all possible avenues of recovery. Reserve Bank of India have issued detailed guidelines to the banks indicating the factors to be kept in view before write offs are made. According to the forms of Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Account prescribed in the Third Schedule of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, which all banks are required to follow strictly, and in accordance with the practices and usages customary among the bankers, the banks are given statutory protection from disclosing the quantum of bad and doubtful debts for which the provision is made to the satisfaction of their statutory auditors as well as the amount of bad debts written off.

1296. [*Transferred to the 4th ..May*, 1987].

Financial Problems of Small Scale Industries

1280. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently made on assessment of the financial problems of the small-scale industries;

(b) if so, what is the outcomes thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to help the small-scale industries in overcoming their problems?